

Message Text

SECRET POSS DUPE

PAGE 01 KUWAIT 00787 280853Z

47

ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03

SS-20 USIA-15 SAM-01 OMB-01 ACDA-19 DRC-01 /137 W

----- 064411

R 280827Z FEB 74

FM AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8901

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MUSCAT POUCH

S E C R E T KUWAIT 0787

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: MARR, MASS, MU

LUBJ: POSSIBLE VISIT OF OMANI DEPUTY DEFENSE MINISTER

1. CHARGE QUINLAN REPORTS FROM MUSCAT THAT DURING DISCUSSION FEB 23 REPORTED SEPTEL, DEPUTY DEFMIN FAHAR VOLUNTEERED THAT HE IS STILL THINKING OF VISITING US AND HAD DISCUSSED WITH SULTAN QABOOS WHO CONCURRED. QUINLAN REPLIED HE OF OPINION OFFICIAL VISIT AT THIS TIME COULD BE MISINTERPRETED AND EXPLOITED BY TROUBLE MAKERS. HOWEVER IF HE WISHED TO MAKE PRIVATE VISIT HE WOULD OF COURSE BE WELCOME.

2. (FAHAR HAD RAISED THIS ISSUE FIRST DURING MALONEY VISIT, AT WHICH TIME QUINLAN GAVE NONCOMMITTAL REPLY).

3. I CONCUR THAT OFFICIAL VISIT BY OMANI DEPUTY DEFMIN AT THIS TIME TO US MIGHT NOT BE WISE. HOWEVER, SINCE WE HAVE TOLD SULTAN (AND FAHAR) THAT WE HAD NO OBJECTIONS IN PRINCIPLE TO OMAN PROCUREMENT AGENT IN WASHINGTON, ANYTHING LESS THAN OFFER TO FACILITATE PRIVATE VISIT (IF FAHAR DECIDES ON ONE), INCLUDING COURTESY CALLS AT STATE AND DEFENSE AND SOME MILITARY SIGHTSEEING, COULD BE INTERPRETED AS SNUB OR INTENTION TO BYPASS HIM.

4. FURTHER, SULTAN QABOOS HIMSELF MAY WELL BE CONSIDERING PUTTING

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FAHAR FORWARD AS VISITOR. WHEN FAHAR RAISES QUESTION NEXT, RECOMMEND QUINLAN BE AUTHORIZED OFFER TO ARRANGE CALLS IN

WASHINGTON AND VISIT TO SOME MILITARY INSTALLATIONS, WHILE
CAUTIONING THAT IN INTERESTS OF BOTH COUNTRIES WE WOULD WISH TO
KEEP PUBLICITY TO MINIMUM.
STOLTZFUS

SECRET

NNN

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